

prosperous today than it ever was 18 years ago. And the direct benefits to citizens (I will not call us all simply consumers - what is at stake here is the public good, thus we all need to remember we are affecting citizens here, not consumers) of VCR taping technologies have been immense - time shifting of television programming, production of a whole new industry to bring video cameras, small business video production, an explosion in video processing and special effects generation, the production of *** motion pictures *** that otherwise would have had too small an audience for consideration by the MPAA 18 years ago, the new viability of television and cable programming during off peak hours (i.e. 3:00 AM), etc., etc., etc.

In summation I would like to hammer home the same point shown over and over by history:

- Player pianos did not destroy the sheet music industry, they adapted.
- Motion Pictures did not destroy acting and theatre, it adapted and flourished.
- Television did not destroy motion pictures, they adapted and flourished.
- Cable did not destroy the television industry, it adapted and is flourishing (and we now have Fox, TNT, HBO, Disney, MTV, and others as television networks - not just ABC, NBC, and CBS as we did a decade ago),
- The VCR did not destroy television, cable, or the motion picture. All have adapted and flourish, and have huge new markets because of it.
- Now, bear with me, I'm going out on a limb here, but in my considered opinion, using a VCR to tape digital cable signals will not, repeat, will not destroy motion pictures.

There is absolutely no reason for limitations to be legislated in the use of VCR technology to record digital cable programming (or any other kind, for that matter).

The very idea that the MPAA can compare the recording of a digital cable signal - when the very citizen who is recording it PAID for that signal through his/her digital cable subscription - to theft of service is infuriating. I sincerely hope the FCC is able to see past such inflammatory remarks and protect the rights of all us citizens.

Sincerely,

- Brannen Hough

From: <rjeff@cpl.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 2:45 PM
Subject: not allowing people to record TV

FROM:

NAME: Richard Garcia
ADDRESS: 1498 Brookside Ave, #221
Redlands, CA 92373

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I'm concerned about the ever growing push to limit consumers rights. The most recent infringement is coming from not allowing people to record digital broadcasts. I used to be able to record a music tape, a backup copy of a program, a television show, and many other common things that people take for granted. Suddenly now that things are going digital companies seem to be wanting to put a stop to that. The government is helping them suppress the average citizen, which I'm against. Please try and not give all of our rights that we enjoyed with 'analog' media like music tapes, paper books, analog video cassettes, and broadcast media like TV away.

Thanks,
R. Jeff Garcia

From: <poconno@columbus.rr.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 3:02 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Patrick O'Connor
ADDRESS: 457 East Como Avenue
Columbus, OH 43202

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding.

I do realize that we are not talking about the "free" airwaves of the past, but this is programming which has already been purchased by the consumer by both subscription to a service (cable) and by use of our time (viewing commercials). This is a pure attempt to charge the consumers for rebroadcasts or secondary viewings of telecasts.

Don't they have enough money already?

Thank you for your time,

Patrick K. O'Connor
457 East Como Avenue
Columbus, OH 43202

From: <rjgardner@engineer.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 3:03 PM
Subject: Systematic Destruction of our Home Recording Rights

FROM:

NAME: Randall Gardner
ADDRESS: 12683 Lasselle St.
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

Technology's exponential growth over the decades is known as one of man's crowning achievements. Democracy should also be included in that category. With free speech such an integral part of democracy...why is it that the federal government and big corporations are trying to limit the integration of free speech with technology. I urge the FCC to take a closer look at this issue and please leave the internet alone.

Sincerely,

Randall Gardner

From: <plaidsez2@mail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 3:18 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Zara Sunday
ADDRESS: 1200 Fuller Wiser #2213
Euless, TX 76039

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

In this digital age, the citizens of this country are continually loosing our freedoms. Freedom is the very reason my forefathers fought to make this an independent nation and it is once again being threatened by big business. First it was the "x-chip", then the region coding on DVD's, and that has lead us to this issue, being able to record a program in my home on equipment I spent my money on and programming I have paid to watch. I am tired of big business being able to waltz in and determine what I can and can not do based on their own bottom line. I'm also tired of businesses turning to the government to solve their technology related problems because they failed to see the potential of the internet, wireless phones and digital TV. Just because someone else beat you to the punch, does not give you the right to have a temper tantrum and through money around to get what you want. The people of this FCC committee have a duty to the citizens of this country to protect our rights. You must turn down the requests of Hollywood to force the makers of electronic equipment to install chips for copy protection.

I'm sure all of the people serving on this committee enjoy having the convenience of taping a show and watching it later, like I do on a daily basis. I urge you to vote to protect the rights of the American citizens you represent, and to protect your own rights. Tell Hollywood no, do not let Hollywood dictate what you and I can record at home for our own personal enjoyment.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts on this issue. And, thank you for telling Hollywood no on this issue.

Sincerely,

Zara Sunday

From: <mindcontrol2@hideaway.ziplip.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 3:18 PM
Subject: Limit TV Recording

FROM:

NAME: name withheld
ADDRESS: 11 A Suydam St
Brooklyn, NY, NY 11221

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

It is not a good idea to vote for this, since a lot of television watchers will become extremely angry. It makes sense to use common sense over the almighty buck. voting for this law in the long term causes more harm in the long term ,than in the short term.

Even though the FCC usually votes in favor of the corporations it really not is a good idea.

You don't want the general idiots (I mean the public)cause an uprising over a television.

Two more things, stop the AOL-Time Warner thing you will have another Microsoft. Why did you allow the creation of Verizon which registered over 700 domain names to limit criticism of their crappy service and unfair policies.

Best regards

From: <mav@badstuff.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 3:20 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Brian Gergens
ADDRESS: 457 Taylor Street
Twin Falls, ID 83301

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

In the past few months, the major entertainment associations (the RIAA and the MPAA) have done every single thing within their power to prevent 'bargain-basement' piracy; the piracy of content using standard consumer-grade tools.

In doing so, we, the consumer, have been under CONSTANT attack from these agencies. We are battling for our fair-use rights.

I want the right to carry a copy of a CD I own in my car so I don't accidentally lose my original copy. I want the right to record a movie or TV show from my digital cable so that I can see it if I have to work while it's being shown. I do NOT want to have to go through a great deal of hassle to do either of those. It should be a SIMPLE process, without encryption, security or other forms of protection.

Please. I'm definitely done with demanding. I'm past asking nicely. I'm down to begging. I'm tired of having to buy 'black boxes' to remove Macrovision so that I can make a legitimate copy of a video so I don't wear out my originals. I can't even make copies of my CD games anymore, even though taking the originals to LAN parties is just asking for trouble. I should have the right to do these things, but because some Corporate lackey decided that 1% of possible profit was being lost due to 'consumer theft,' I can't. And I'm tired of it.

I'm asking the FCC to please look into the Movie Industry's eyes and see what they really mean: "We want more money, so please approve this request." Please look into their eyes and pay attention to what you see. They don't NEED any more money. They are already wealthy beyond the average man's wildest dreams.

From: <alan_fcc@ajackson.org>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 11:39 AM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Alan Jackson
ADDRESS: 13907 Myrtlea
Houston, TX 77079

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

It is becoming abundantly clear that Hollywood is trying to shrink the scope of "fair use" to the point that there is none. I don't even watch TV, or record shows, and I am absolutely outraged at this greedy power-grab.

Sincerely,

Alan Jackson

From: <slabrego@hotmail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 12:08 PM
Subject: Message From a Concerned Citizen

FROM:

NAME: Sergio Labrego
ADDRESS: 65 Foothills Drive
South River, NJ 08882

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

It is horrible what I hear is going to happen-there will be a hearing to put "copy protection" on VCRs so we can't record Cable TV shows?! This is ridiculous since it is mostly private use; like if you go out and aren't going to be home to watch a show at a certain time, you record the show so you watch it when you come back. As long as they don't sell it, it should be fine. If there is a law, it's only going to get worse and into a black market and more and more people will be selling it, since there is no other way to find a certain show that is not in stores and not on television any longer. The MPAA and anyone else who is behind it just want more money, but what will wind up happening is them getting less. Plus there's always a way around "copy protection". Please think about what I'm saying.

Sincerely,
Sergio Labrego

From: <dsb@killerbunnies.org>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 12:33 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Scott Bigham
ADDRESS: 4516R Emerald Forest Drive
Durham, NC 27713

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I have recently learned that the Motion Picture Association of America has asked you to require VCR and HTDV manufacturers to include technology to prevent the recording of certain digital TV broadcasts for the purpose of later viewing (a.k.a. "time-shifting").

I am very concerned by this development. Under the Betamax ruling, I already have the right to record any TV program for time-shifting purposes, and to view said recording as many times as I choose. The MPAA's member companies, of course, would doubtless like to take that right away from me and other consumers, as that would allow them to make more money; I, however, hold the apparently naïve view that the rights of the people should be more important than corporate profit margins.

I therefore urge you oppose any restrictions on our rights to watch and record TV programs, and to reject the MPAA's request.

Yours truly,
Scott Bigham

From: <suessw@ccm.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 12:34 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Wesley Suess
ADDRESS: 135 Oak Lawn Ct
Schaumburg, IL 60195

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding.

It strikes me as odd that the corporations which control the cable and entertainment industry would involve the government to force consumers to pay for service (say extra movie channels for example) and not allow the consumer to record them for viewing at a later date (probably because they work for a living and aren't always home when the show they want to watch, and are already paying a cable bill for, is on). This would be on the level of Ford asking the government to step in and pass a law that Ford owners can only use Firestone tires on their cars and Ford should be allowed to persecute those who use Goodyear or some other brand...

Please make the correct decision and tell the cable companies that the consumer has rights which the United States of America will not tread upon for the sake of a few more dollars than what the industry already makes.

Thank you for reading my views.

Sincerely,
Wesley Suess
United States Citizen

From: <ashcrowd@hotmail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 12:44 PM
Subject: MPAA

FROM:

NAME: Mike Ash
ADDRESS: 2545 NE Dale Hunter Lane
Lees Summit, MO 64086

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I just heard that the MPAA is trying to prevent customers from recording shows from TV. I am not a legal expert but I think the MPAA is going to far and already has to much control over what I can do with the things I have purchased. I have to record my favorite shows to watch at a later time because I am usually at work when those shows are on. If this were to take place I might as well get rid of cable access and just use the airwaves.

Sincerely,

Mike Ash

From: <chris_myers@mail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 1:30 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Christopher Myers
ADDRESS: 781 Castle Blvd
Akron, OH 44313

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

The above was a form letter written by the HRRRC. I'd like to add a few common-sense comments:

1. Everybody on the planet knows that consumers doing time shifting are not pirating content. This is just a money grab by Hollywood. "Hey, let's see if we can get someone to pay us for the ability to timeshift the junk we distribute as entertainment!"

2. Consumers are used to being able to timeshift with their VCRs. Take this ability away and there will be a huge outcry. Congress will act. Americans love their TV, and timeshifting is a big part of that these days. Don't mess with it.

3. The creative geniuses in Hollywood still haven't come up with any new arguments. This is the same broken record they've been playing since the introduction of the VCR. It's yet to be proven how the VCR has damaged Hollywood.

Thanks for listening to the public,
Christopher Myers

From: <taurins@penguin.inetnebr.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 1:35 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Agris Taurins
ADDRESS: 5101 South 54th Street
Lincoln, NE 68516

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Basically, the right to time-shift any and all broadcast regardless of their transmission format MUST be protected!

Sincerely,

Agris Taurins
5101 South 54th Street
Lincoln, NE 68516

From: <rfeutz@nconnect.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 1:45 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: RICHARD FEUTZ
ADDRESS: N-2298 RESTHAVEN RD.
RUBICON, WI 53078

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

The Federal Communications Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be used to record from digital cable systems, and in what capacity home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Due to my busy work schedule the only way I'm able to view any TV at all is through recording for time shifting. Just because technology is now allowing higher quality recording should not change the regulations. I want to continue to record programs legally for my own use. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

Sincerely,

Richard Feutz
N-2298 Resthaven Rd.
Rubicon, Wi. 53078

From: <jstonehouse@hotmail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 2:00 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Jason Stonehouse
ADDRESS: 536 W. College Ave. #12
State College, PA 16801

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

I sincerely hope that the Commission takes the appropriate action and blocks any further efforts to infringe upon fundamental consumer rights and succumb to corporate pressure.

Sincerely,
Jason L. Stonehouse

From: <acrandal@hotmail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 2:08 PM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Aaron Crandall
ADDRESS: 12203 S.W. Steamboat
Beaverton, OR 97008

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed.

The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service!

In recent times the MPAA has seemed to have decided that they need much greater control of the dispersal of information. With cases such as DeCSS and continual legal battles against individuals, the MPAA seems to want to limit the individual rights of American Citizens. Never mind that the largest pirates are in other countries, never mind that maybe someone has a legitimate use for recording/copying/(even watching via DeCSS) with their own TV/VCR/DVD/PC of a copyrighted work.

I rarely record something off of television. The few times I do so is mostly because I want to watch it later because I am busy when the show is on, but it is my right to record that show and watch it later.

This is just another assault on my personal right, and yours as well. Please suggest that the people who produce the entertainment for the public let the public watch it. Also, suggest that these huge organizations stop trying to protect their "way" of doing things when times have changed: how many monks are paid to copy the bible these days? Did they sue every living thing to protect their revenue stream? Did they go after the printing press and try to be the sole owners? No, they saw that this machine let more people of the world read the words of the Lord and that it was a better place because of it.

The MPAA and whoever else is trying to undermine the rights of the US citizen need to take a deep breath and realize they are fighting a lost cause, but one they can win because they have the most money. If they do win, and it is upheld that the people who purchase things can't use them as they see fit, the United States of America is one closer step to the control that was exerted by Stalin for all those years.

Please, look to the future and not the dollar, the thought and not the lawyer.

Thank you for your time.

-Aaron
Crandall

From: <dravetjr@hotmail.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:10 AM
Subject: don't limit recording from TV

FROM:

NAME: Jason Dravet
ADDRESS: 903 Chase Drive
Crown Point, IN 46307

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

Please don't limit the recording from TV. My job requires me to work various hours, and as a result I have to tape most of my favorite shows for viewing at a later date.

Sincerely,

Jason Dravet

From: <dmaloy7587@uswest.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:24 AM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Daniel Maloy
ADDRESS: 1625 D Ave NE Upper Apartment
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

Normally I would send this to you via standard US Post, however I feel that the time frame on this proposal is short enough to require electronic correspondence.

I am very concerned with the direction that all governmental agencies seem to be taking of late --that of putting the profits of corporations above the rights of sovereign US citizens. Recently, a new issue has been brought to my attention. I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

Sincerely,

Daniel Steven Maloy

From: <parsec@mad.scientist.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:26 AM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Michael Skora
ADDRESS: 1410 Brookfield Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

In addition to the well phrased HRRC statement below, I would like to add:

The content of today's commercial television stations is depressing. The consistency of the tone of these shows makes me think that this is purposeful and designed to addict people to mindless consumerism just to feel, for a short time, better about themselves.

Where is the intelligent, thought-provoking television? Our Public Broadcasting System is the last, embattled frontier of uplifting, life-affirming, open-minded mass media. And even then, they're unable to take a stance against any politician for fear of our government taking away the last measly pittance of funding and then their licenses.

So, in my mind, not only should copy protection be withheld from commercial media, but you should be looking much closer at their miserable content. If anything, tie their right to use copy protection to their setting aside 2 minutes per hour to public commentary (and not all at 4 am, either!). Two minutes isn't much considering that cutting out all the commercials on MTV leaves you with 18 minutes of show for every 30.

-HRRC-----

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

From: <gilb@ieee.org>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:34 AM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: James Gilb
ADDRESS: 12695 Picrus St
San Diego, CA 92129

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping.

With small children, it is important to our family to be able to control the time and location that we view programs. Without the ability to record and later view programs, we would miss out on both important and entertaining programs that my wife and I want to watch, but are not appropriate for our children.

Furthermore, copy protection schemes add unnecessary cost and complexity to consumer devices, which will slow the uptake of these devices and restrict innovation. We don't know what new ways the digital media might be used and we will not find out if innovation is restricted.

Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding.

Thank you for reading my views.

Sincerely

James P. K. Gilb

From: <joe.mango@snet.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:41 AM
Subject: MPAA/RIAA welfare

FROM:

NAME: Joseph Manganello
ADDRESS: 400 North Main St.
Ansonia, CT 06401

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the shameful manner in which the RIAA and MPAA are attempting to siphon off the rights of consumers, nay CITIZENS, in the US.

I do not want to live in a world where:

A. it is illegal for me to make a mix tape for my girlfriend, composed of analog or otherwise non-exact copies (including MP3 and Minidisc ATRAC) of copyrighted material I have purchased a license for (paid for at a store or otherwise).

B. it is illegal for me to view or listen to said material using a playback method of my own choosing, whether it be a DVD player for linux or something I have come up with myself in order to facilitate the FAIR USE of copyrighted materials I have licensed.

C. I must pay for each viewing of copyrighted materials I wish to peruse.
(Remember Divx, the pay-per-use DVD format that died because nobody wanted it?)

D. Media corporations disguise their own greed as an attempt to protect the rights of artists and other content creators (whose actual copyrights they have procured as their own, making their arguments baseless)... Oops, this already exists, sorry.

If the government will not protect us (the people who make up this great nation) from corporate zealotry that does little more than destroy individual rights in the name of protecting revenue streams for said corporations, it is not doing its job. The FCC's job is to ensure that the broadcast airwaves remain free and unfettered by unconstitutional restrictions.

Please restore my faith in your commission and protect us from the robber barons that would take away our rights.

Sincerely,

Joseph L. Manganello

From: <cmd@thematrix.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:51 AM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Chris Dunphy
ADDRESS: 115 Fallen Leaf Dr.
Boulder Creek, CA 95006

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

Greetings...

Digital recording devices are on the verge of drastically changing how consumers watch TV by allowing effortless time shifting. Devices such as TiVo and ReplayTV change the way you watch TV - by letting you select programs that interest you, and never having to worry about when they are on.

The industry fears this, particularly once digital signals are being recorded - allowing perfect copies. They shouldn't.

Digital home recording will encourage more television viewing, and less popular shows (late night, early morning) will find a much larger audience in a world where air time doesn't matter.

Private home use is a good thing, and in the end will grow the market. We've seen this happen in the past with VHS.

Putting limits on personal recording will help no one. The industry can not prove that they are hurt by a tiny amount of small scale piracy, and these limitations will do nothing to deter commercial pirates.

Please find in favor of freedom and fair use.

Sincerely,

chris dunphy

--

This boilerplate does sum it up pretty well:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and

not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

Sincerely,

chris dunphy

From: <smd22@cornell.edu>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 10:58 AM
Subject: VHS recording: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: Scott Dylewski
ADDRESS: 155 1/2 Westview Lane
Ithaca, NY 14850

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed.

Does this mean that I will not be able to record a movie while I'm not home and watch it later?

Can I not quote part of a movie for use in educational reports?

Surely, we must allow for "Fair Use" in ALL information media.

Please vote against any measures that would restrict the ability of people to record things for private use. (of course, selling or distributing recordings SHOULD be illegal)

Thank you for your time,

Scott Dylewski

From: <cajun@dls.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 11:00 AM
Subject: MPAA's desire to limit home recording of digital TV.

FROM:

NAME: William Byars
ADDRESS: 1351 N. Western Ave. #210
Lake Forest, IL 60045

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

Hello! While recently reading Slashdot, an online publication/comment board at <http://slashdot.org>, I ran across an article that mentioned an upcoming FCC ruling on behalf of the MPAA. From what I read, it seems that the MPAA is requesting the FCC to help it require circuitry to be built into consumer digital content viewing appliances (HDTV sets, Digital VCR's, etc.) to disallow copying of programs that the sender/broadcaster/copyright owner has decided to include copy protection with. If I understand this correctly, it would mean that any HDTV set built before the "copy protection measures" were put in place would become immediately useless for viewing such copy-protected programs, unless the citizen bought a new "decoder box" to go with it.

It doesn't take much of a stretch to see that they would not make such boxes available, since one could then put a VCR inline between the box and the TV to defeat the copy protection mechanism.

This would be a serious blow to the previous Home Recording Act (Not sure of the specific Act, but this name is close enough) which allowed recording of television shows for time-shifted viewing. Any copy-protected programming would not be time-shiftable.

This, in my humble opinion, is unacceptable.

There are numerous arguments I could make as to why it is a bad idea to require the copy protection circuitry. I've already made my best one: that it conflicts with existing law (Home Recording Act) regarding recording for time-shifted viewing.

Another one I could make is that, quite simply, it won't work. Quite simply, if you can view it or hear it, you can record it. Your brain does it every time, if only briefly enough for you to enjoy the experience.

For the vast majority of viewers out there, HDTV will be viewed through a decoder box (IF it is allowed to be produced...) that allows them to keep using their existing TV. Any other scenario that involves the wholesale transition from analog to digital broadcasting will necessarily lose a huge portion of the viewing audience, an economically unacceptable idea to broadcasters. Since the

box undoes the copy protection to allow viewing, any VCR can now copy the program.

Next level: the savvy HDTV owner. Such an owner could open the box and dig out the signal that drives the rastering controls for the picture tube, as well as the signal that feeds the audio amplifier. Copy those signals, and you have copied the program. It is an analog copy, to be sure, but a copy nonetheless.

Another argument against such draconian copy-protection measures is that it leverages the copyright holders' control over the hardware market. Can't pay the MPAA dues? Sorry, you're out of business. Not cool. That's unfairly restricting competition.

How about a compromise? The MPAA can get broadcasters to encode the programming they choose with a copy protection measure. If members of the viewing public want to watch these encoded programs, they can buy a decoder box with the licensed circuitry inside. Otherwise, they can watch all non-encoded programming the same way they currently watch it. *Requiring* the circuitry in the box means that if the consumer doesn't have a licensed he/she can't watch *anything*, unless they are lucky enough to have or dig up an older unlicensed box on the used market. The old box would at least allow viewing of unencoded programming.

We don't need new laws or controls, this is almost identical to how Cable TV and/or Satellite TV currently works. You pay a monthly fee for the hookup. No pay, no view. In the HDTV realm, you can rent or buy a decoder box for the "premium" encoded channels. Or they can sell the boxes with a dial-in feature similar to pay-per-view which allows the box to connect in and get the "key" for that movie/show/whatever. Just don't *require* the copy-protection circuitry to be put in the boxes. That removes citizens' choice, which is a Bad Thing(tm).

Any newfangled copy-protection feature will only make life harder on the general viewing public, it will not significantly impact the "Hard Core" copy-resellers, since there will always be a way to make at least an analog copy. New laws only work on law-abiding citizens. They have absolutely no effect on outlaws.

Whew, that was a bit of a rant. I'm basically a Concerned Citizen here, trying to protect my rapidly diminishing rights. (Scary aside: I almost called myself a Consumer. Calling oneself - or others - consumers instead of citizens dehumanizes them, implying that their sole purpose is to buy and consume the product(s) that manufacturers peddle to them. Ick!) Anyways, I hope you have waded through this admittedly not-so-well-worded-or-structured comment and see my point.

Sincerely,
Will Byars

From: <jfrazier@flashcom.net>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 11:11 AM
Subject: PP Docket No. 00-67

FROM:

NAME: D. Joseph Frazier
ADDRESS: 828 N. Nora Ave.
West Covina, CA 91890

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

I understand the Commission soon will be deciding whether VCRs can be hooked up to digital cable systems, and whether home recording from digital cable will be allowed. Hollywood studios apparently claim that home recording is the same as theft of service and that this justifies limiting home taping. Your agency should protect consumers' rights to record and view DTV signals. The Commission should respect the Supreme Court's ruling in the Betamax case, and not equate private, noncommercial home recording with theft of service! In short, the Commission should take action to protect the interests of consumers in this proceeding. Thank you for reading my views.

I really feel that the MPAA's position is based strictly on greed, not on "what's right". Their hoistory proves that they want to profit from something not once, but forever, and do not want to have to share thos profits with anyone.

Please consider the rights of the general public when you rule on this matter. It's up to you to be our advocate.

Sincerely,

D. Joseph Frazier

From: <johnnysuede@mad.scientist.com>
To: DC.CMGI(AKitey)
Date: Wed, Sep 6, 2000 11:23 AM
Subject: home recording rights

FROM:

NAME: Jim Pierce
ADDRESS: 2428 Lomond
Winston-Salem, NC 27127

This message was sent to:

Dear Chairman

Copy of message text follows:

In a recent news article, I read about proposed encryption for digitally broadcast programming to prevent recording. I am opposed to this, as it seems to be the removal of a right to record broadcast programming that I have enjoyed for 20-some years.

Thank you for your time and attention

-Jim Pierce,
concerned citizen